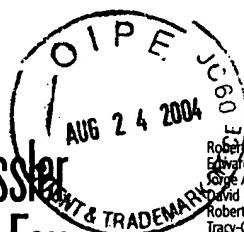




ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Serge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffes  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Jeffrey T. Helvey  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Albert L. Ferro\*  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaston  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhuillier  
Rae Lynn Prengaman  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein\*  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller\*  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Tiera S. Coston  
Aric W. Ledford\*  
Helene C. Carlson  
Timothy A. Doyle\*  
Jessica L. Parezo  
Gaby L. Longsworth\*

Lori A. Gordon\*  
Nicole D. Detras\*  
Ted J. Ebersole  
Jyoti C. Iyer\*  
Laura A. Vogel  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford  
Michelle K. Holoubek

Robert H. DeSelms  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukherjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
Michael G. Penn  
Christopher J. Walsh

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie

\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

August 24, 2004

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8810  
**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
ESMITH@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*Art Unit 2631*

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/698,861; Filed: November 3, 2003  
For: **Method Of and System For Optimizing The Capacity Of A Digital Communication System In Presence Of Both Internal And External Noise**

Inventors: PEETERS *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.3660001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Original, executed Power of Attorney from Assignee;
2. Original, executed Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) with a copy of the Assignment attached; and
3. One return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
August 24, 2004  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Evan R. Smith  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 35,683

ERS/sjc  
289674\_1.DOC

Enclosures